(i) Naraina
(ii) Old Nangal
(iii) Jharera
(iv) Mehrem Nagar
(v) Pehlad Pud
(vi) Sarai Sohal

(b) and (c) Civil amenities are provided to the villages considering their requirement subject only to the financial constraints. A number of development projects like water supply, provision of roads, path and brick paving, repairs to group latrines and drains, are in progress at many places. Some more works are in the planning stage. The execution of these works are likely to improve the present status of these civic amenities. No Objection Certificate for power is given by the Board wherever applicable. Similarly, lease/licences of vacant land are considered on merits based on policy instructions and criteria for allotment laid down in this regard.

**Launch Vehicle Development**

1340. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent ASLV failure, Government propose to concentrate more in the areas of launch vehicle development; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) failure of the first flight of ASLV will not affect the future launch vehicle programme. The ASLV programme consists of two developmental flights to be followed by two additional flights. Though the first developmental flight ASLV-D1 which took place on March 24, 1987, was not successful, the data obtained indicate that most of the critical items of the mission have functioned well. The causes for the failure will be critically analysed and necessary modifications will be incorporated into the planned second flight ASLV-D2, which is scheduled to take place with in a year.

The launch vehicle capability in the country is being enhanced in a phased manner. With the successful launch of Satellite Launch Vehicle-3 (SLV-3) in 1980, capability to launch 50 kg class of satellites was achieved. The Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) Project, which is an improved version of SLV-3, is for achieving a capability to launch 150 kg class of satellites in the near earth orbit. Work on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) project is parallely in progress targetted for a launch during 1989-90. This project is for establishing the capability to launch IRS class of satellites (1000 kg class). Studies are underway to further improve launch capability for geosynchronous missions of INSAT class with Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). Some of the R&D activities for critical elements required for the GSLV have also been initiated. The activities of the Department are being pursued in a planned manner as outlined broadly in the Space Profile documents for the decade 1970-80 and 1980-90. When these activities fructify, the launches of IRS & INSAT class satellites can be sustained with Indian Launch Vehicles.

**Demand for Parliamentary Probe on the Write-offs of loans etc. by Banks**

1341. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received petitions from the employees'

representatives of the nationalised banks recently demanding a Parliamentary probe into the write-offs of loans etc. and suggesting remedial measures; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the views of Government on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The All India Bank Employees Association and the All India Bank Officers' Association have recently held a demonstration in support of demands for nationalisation of private banks and foreign banks, disclosure of all write-offs of bad debts, formulation of a national banking plan and credit policy absorption of all Grameen Banks etc.

All suggestions to bring about an improvement in the working of the banks that are received by Government from different quarters, including Unions|Association are kept in view by Government|Reserve Bank of India while formulating policies on major aspects of banks' operations and are incorporated in the policies wherever considered desirable and practicable.

**Chemical Warfare Capability of Pakistan**

1342. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what information does the Government of India have on Pakistan's chemical warfare capability; and

(b) whether this issue has ever been discussed with the Government of that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Government have seen reports about Pakistan having developed a limited Chemical Warfare capability, but have no confirmed information in this regard.

(b) The issue has not figured in bilateral discussions with Pakistan.

**Amount of Nationalised Banks Blocked in Sick Units and Industries**

1343. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of nationalised banks blocked in sick units and industries in the country;

(b) what is the total number of sick units and industries in which such amount is blocked; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The RBI has reported that a total amount of Rs. 2436.07 crores was outstanding against 42363 sick units in respect of 20 nationalised banks as at the end of December 1985. The banks are expected to take various measures including follow up, continuous monitoring and if necessary legal action for recovery of their dues from the sick units. The RBI have emphasised on the banks for detection of incipient sickness and for initiating corrective measures in this regard for viable units. Government have also recently constituted a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for taking various steps pertaining to sick industrial companies which fall within the purview of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.